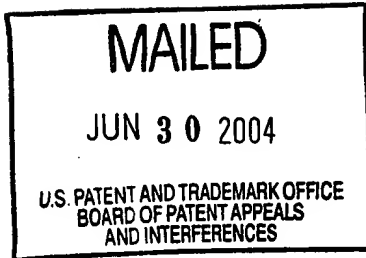


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte CHARLES J. GAZDIK,
ELLIOT LEE KLOSTERMAN, SHANE KONSELLA,
KWESI E. ABRAHAM and MICHAEL S. DE LAURENTIS

Application 09/304,968

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on May 26, 2004. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

An examination of the file reveals that an Appeal Brief was filed on October 10, 2002 (Paper No. 11). The examiner acknowledged the Appeal Brief in an Examiner's Answer mailed December 31, 2002 (Paper No. 12). Section 1208 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) (8th Ed., Aug. 2001) states:

Requirements for Examiner's Answer

The examiner's answer is required to include, under appropriate headings, in the order indicated, the following items:

(1) Real Party in Interest. A statement acknowledging the identification of the real party in financial interest. . . .

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences. A statement acknowledging appellant's identification of related cases. . . .

The Examiner's Answer mailed December 31, 2002 (Paper No. 12) does not comply with the above requirement. Correction is required.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner:

1. for taking corrective action regarding both the "Real Party in Interest" and "Related Appeals and Interferences";

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2. for written notification to appellants regarding
the action taken; and

3. for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
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By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dale Shaw', is written over a horizontal line.

DALE SHAW

Program and Resource Administrator
(703) 308-9797

cc: Hewlett Packard Company
P.O. Box 272400
3404 E. Harmony Road
Intellectual Property Administration
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

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